

David Pratt

Andover Apr 9th 1852



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Rev Amos A. Phelps

Wapshington
Mass

The Post
Master will
please to forward
this as soon as possible

Will you please to let me know about the state of Parish
concerns in your Sec. Give my respects to your family ^{Benjamin} Dec. Fitch.
Dec. Mass, John Clapham Ambrose C. and all enquiring Christians
and my Nephews Family Miss Valentine

Your most obedient Servt

Rev. A. A. Phelps

J. Hart

N.B. I rec'd a letter from brother Richards a few
days since which contained some reflections which he cast
upon me for stating the manner to my uncle in which he
left this place. I think myself I had ought to have written to him
first but I did not: and ^{I am} heartily sorry that I did ^{not} write to him as I have
since. But he avies in his letter to me; that what I stated is ^{not} ~~true~~
which I am sorry to hear. I did mean to state any thing but what was
perfectly true and I think now I did not. If I recollect right
I did not state the particulars in my letter all of them.

Which I will state in the following viz He was
much disappointed when he first came here to find things
dearer than he supposed. I assisted him as much as ~~it~~ was in
my power in getting a good boarding place; which was at Miss
Upton's one of the best women in the world. He stayed there a few
days at least untill his board and wood which he bought amounted
to about one doll. He then concluded to go to Mr. Chandler's
and work for his board and he went and stayed two days I think and
they liked him very much indeed Mr. C. was then out of health &
has since died. He came to me and saw that Catalogues which you
gave me of Monson & read. And he thought that it would be
best to go and did go after he had consulted with Mr. Schneider
he left 50¢ with me to pay Miss W. saying it was all he owed
her; that he knew to be false at the same time but I did not
contide he had gone. He told Mr. C. that he was going to Boston
and should come back the next day which at the same time he knew
he should not come back for he was going to Monson directly.

There is two falsehoods which can be sufficiently proved
Miss W. and Miss Chandler will give the their names as testimonies if asked
I should like to have you write to me and let me know what he told
you about these things. He very much injured his name here which
nothing but an humble acknowledgment will atone for it.
If you should doubt my veracity I should be glad to have you write
to Brother Schneider.

Phillips Head Andover 9. 11. 1832

Dear Sir

After a long time I improve an opportunity of writing to you to let you know how I get along through this sale of tears.

I find the course of studies thus far more difficult than I expected; that is to perform my duties of religious nature more difficult in many respects than I expected. I supposed when I began or before I began to study, that I should have more time to ~~study~~ attend to religious duties than I had ever had; but I find it very different ^{from what I expected} if a person does not ^{watch} himself every closely he will wander away from his duty before he knows it. Although there is a good influence exerted in this place yet if a person is ambitious in his studies and neglects his religious duties he will at sure loose his first love as he does it. I find it necessary to watch and pray constantly ^(and) lest I should be led into temptations. And I do feel the need of your prayers notwithstanding our separation; I feel thankful for your kind instructions which you have imparted to me from time to time which I have some good reason to think it has been blessed to me; and I hope that I shall not be ^{off} apart from the path of duty, but by the blessing of Almighty God be enabled to practice those good truths which you have often impressed upon my mind.

Long shall I remember those interesting scenes which I have witnessed in my own person and in others. Yes it was in Hopkinton that I learnt the song of Love and money. It was in that frequented Vestry where I think I gave up my heart to my Saviour which I had withheld for a long time. Yes I remember it was under the influence of your remarks that I have reason to believe that I submitted.

And I hope that the God of all grace will grant you a rich reward for all your toils or labours and at last may we be so happy as to meet around his throne with hundreds whom you may be the means of turning unto the Lord; and unite in the song of Moses and the Lamb forever & ever. Which is the prayer of your unworthy friend.

R. A. Phelps,

J. Pratt.